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Subject Upper Animas Mining District Data Gap Evaluation - Status
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Upper Animas Mining District Data Gap Evaluation
February 18, 2009 - Project Status

START3 has been evaluating the point sources found along Cement Creek, located north of Silverton, Colorado. We have reviewed available sampling data for Cement Creek collected over the past 15 years. This analytical data comprises source and environmental samples collected from waste rock, soil, mine discharges, stream water, and stream sediment.

We are trying to tie available data to point sources to rank relative contribution and demonstrability of contribution to the identifiable source contributing to the contamination in Cement Creek. One point of note is that often there are not sediment samples associated with water quality samples (sediment samples are important in a HRS evaluation of stream contamination. We are also identifying current potential targets along the downstream course of the surface water flow pathway.

We are attempting to evaluate, from existing data, the potential changes to the system caused by the bulkheading of the American Tunnel.

A draft report, with maps, will be prepared and delivered to the EPA at the end of the month.

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